

Members Present: Christine Holmes, Colleen Ellingson, Francine Feinberg, Dr. Earnestine Willis, Mary Sowinski representing John Chisholm, County Supervisor Willie Johnson, Jr., State Senator Spencer Coggs, Judge Joe Donald, Judge Michael Skwierawski, County Supervisor Russell Stamper II, Linda Davis, Arlene Happach.

Linda Davis opened the meeting with greetings and introductions.

Minutes: Minutes from the July 27, 2012 meeting approved as read.

Quarter Performance Report, Mark Sarvela, BPM/PRES

Mark Sarvela presented the report of the 2012 Corrective Action Plan for the months of July 1, 2012 through September 30, 2012. The Partnership Council requested that the information regarding child maltreatment in out of home care include the type of placement the child was in at the time the maltreatment occurred.

Committee Reports

Health and Education Committee

The most recent meeting of the Health and Education Committee was November 28. The Committee has been working with the Department of Public Instruction, Milwaukee Public Schools and the Department of Children and Families regarding the educational needs of children in foster care.

Critical Incident Committee

Judge Skwierawski explained that this Committee meets to review critical/egregious incidents handled by the Bureau and make recommendations for improvement. Mary Pat Bohn provided an overview of the Recommendation Summary. Recommendations cover the areas of policies and practice; training and retraining; quality assurance and personnel. The Committee will meet to review incidents quarterly immediately before scheduled Partnership Council meetings.

Director's Report

Arlene Happach presented the Director's Report that included an overview of the ongoing and new initiatives happening in the Bureau. A copy of the Program Activity Report (as of September 2012) was distributed for review.

Independent Living Services

Independent Living Coordinator, Chris Lenske, provided a history of and described the services for youth aging out of foster care. Gary Erdmann and Karie Lowe explained the services offered by Lad Lake.

DSP/DCF Updates, Fredi-Ellen Bove

Medical Home

The purpose of the medical home is to improve the quality, timeliness and access of medical care for children in foster care.

- Will be in effect for Milwaukee and five surrounding counties.
- Application material for medical home provider has been issued.
- Information will be published on the DHS website. Application is due January 15.

Race to the Top

Race to the Top is a federal grant for early learning. The Department applied, but did not get fully funded. We have been invited, along with five other states that did not receive the original grant, to resubmit the application.

Tribal Foster care Children

- Milwaukee has the largest number of tribal children in the state.
- We are trying to expand tribal homes.
- **Working with the tribes to preserve traditions for children in foster homes.**

Community Forum

No speakers

Meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Zellner